

## ABSTRACT

A method for enabling provision of service-levels in an Ethernet-over-synchronous communication network, the method comprising:

- 5           receiving Ethernet frames at an input rate;
- mapping said Ethernet frames into a synchronous protocol;
- generating a pause signal after a received amount of said Ethernet frames reaches or exceeds a threshold capacity level, said pause signal being generated in accordance with a service-level agreement (SLA) determining an
- 10       output rate based upon an aggregate rate enabled by K memory containers out of N available memory containers, where K and N are integers; and
- outputting the mapped data frames from the K memory containers thereby providing synchronous transmissions at said output rate.